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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/805,248	03/22/2004	Isao Ooshima	04329.3287	9056

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EXAMINER

MOREHEAD, JOHN H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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06/15/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/805,248	Applicant(s) OOSHIMA ET AL.	
	Examiner John Morehead	Art Unit 2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-3 and 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yonezawa et al US 7222356.

3. Re claim 1, Yonezawa discloses a network-connected camera (fig. 1 element 10) comprising: a retrieval message sending unit (retrieval message sending unit will be all elements that are linked up to the network in fig. 1) configured to send a retrieval message that contains the position information of the camera itself (col. 5 lines 35-45 also col. 8 lines 33-39, camera position will be considered **camera state information** as disclosed by Yonezawa) over a network at regular intervals (col. 15 lines 17-22); a return message sending unit (return message sending unit will be considered entire apparatus of fig. 1) configured to, upon detecting a retrieval message sent over the network, send a return message containing the position information of the camera itself over the network (figs. 30, 31, and 32); and a position information recording unit (fig. 1 contains an internal memory, external memory, and storage unit located on the video transmitter element 20) configured to, upon detecting a retrieval message and a return

message sent over the network, record the position information contained in the retrieval message and the return message (col. 6 lines 1-13, also col. 8 lines 26-54).

Re claim 2, Yonezawa further discloses a network-connected camera according to claim 1, wherein the position information recording unit changes the recorded contents on the basis of a detected return message sent over the network in response to the retrieval message sent over the network at regular intervals by the retrieval message sending unit (col. 8 lines 26-54).

Re claim 3, Yonezawa further discloses a network-connected camera according to claim 1, wherein the position information recording unit, upon detecting a new return message sent over the network in response to the retrieval message sent over the network at regular intervals by the retrieval message sending unit, adds position information contained in the new return message to its recorded contents (col. 8 lines 26-54).

Re claim 5, Yonezawa further discloses a network-connected camera according to claim 1, further comprising an information sending unit configured to, upon receiving a request for multi-image display over the network, send over the network information that allows the multi-image display on the basis of the recorded contents of the position information recording unit (fig. 5, col. 6 lines 25-67, and col. 7 lines 1-2).

Re claim 6, Yonezawa further discloses a network-connected camera according to claim 5, wherein the information sending unit sends over the network first information that specifies a layout for the multi-image display and second information that specifies assignment of images captured by cameras connected to the network to divided display areas on a display screen indicated by the layout specified by the first information (fig. 5, col. 6 lines 25-67 also col. 7 lines 1-2).

Re claim 7, Yonezawa further discloses a network-connected camera according to claim 6, wherein, upon detecting information that selects cameras which provide images to be displayed on the divided display areas indicated by the layout and is sent over the network, the information sending unit sends over the network information that specifies cameras selected on the basis of that select information (figs. 3-5).

Re claim 8, Yonezawa further discloses an image display method comprising: obtaining over a network first information that specifies a layout for multi-image display and second information that specifies a number of cameras which provides images which are to be displayed on divided display areas indicated by the layout specified by the first information; dividing a display screen into a number of display areas on the basis of the layout specified by the first information; obtaining image signals from the cameras specified by the second information over the network; and displaying the image signals obtained from the cameras over the network on the divided display areas, respectively, of the display screen (figs. 3-5, col. 6 lines 25-67 also col. 7 lines 1-2).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

6. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yonezawa et al US 7222356 in view of Hackett et al US 5926210.

7. Re claim 4, claim 4 requires a network-connected camera according to claim 1, wherein, when a return message for the retrieval message sent over the network at regular intervals by the retrieval message sending unit is not detected over a predetermined number of times, the position information recording unit erases the position information contained in that return information and recorded when it was once detected

Yonezawa fails to teach the above limitations recited throughout claim 4.

However, Hackett discloses a security system that has a roll call function. The function

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checks each camera connected to the system, and if a camera does not respond, it is removed from the active roster and an error flag is set indicating that the camera is missing from the active roster (Hackett, col. 11 lines 27-42).

Therefore taking the combined teachings of Yonezawa and Hackett, as a whole, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Yonezawa's communications apparatus with Hackett's security system by incorporating Hackett's ability of removing cameras that are not responsive to Yonezawa's camera control server software so that once cameras that are detected as unresponsive, appropriate corrective action can be taken so that the security system can be fully functional.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Morehead whose telephone number is 571-270-1183. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (alt) 7:30-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ngoc Yen Vu can be reached on 571-272-7320. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JM



LIN YE
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER